

Shark River Monmouth, Co. N.J.

Oct 1st 1856.

Dr. Asa Gray.

My Dear Professor It is now many years since any direct communication has been received from you. I have done little in collecting plants for a long time my time having been wholly occupied in professional and other pursuits, yet I love the science as well as ever and have yet an immense collection of specimens principally Grasses & Cyperaceous plants on hand. These I would like to dispose of either in exchange for foreign plants of like orders or for other objects in Nat. Hist. or for a consideration. Though I have done little in collecting I have looked at the vegetation around me and would be happy to contribute any thing in my power for the advancement of Science. About six weeks since

I happened to be at Swimming River a branch of Shrewsbury River where I saw what I took to be *Limnium spongiosa*, Richard. I saw the same plant at the original locality Braddocks Bay Monroe, Co. N.Y. in 1840. I am not aware that it has been found within the limits of the Northern United States except here. I could furnish you the *Schizaea pusilla* either dried or living having found it abundantly at Toms River some ten years ago and this season some six or eight miles farther north on a branch of Kettle-Creek.

I sent you a few living specimens in a newspaper about a week since did you obtain it? The *Lygodium palmatum* grows within a half mile of this place, but Prof. Chubbourn of Williamstown Mass. tells me that he has sent you a supply. I could furnish any quantity of specimens either dried or living. I send you enclosed a ^{specimen} of the *Limnium* I had no convenience to carry plants at the time

In a newspaper I also send you today a few more specimens of the Schizaea. Please inform me whether you desire roots or seeds of plants that may be procured here. I do not now live in the Diner-Barrens, but some of the characteristic plants are frequently met with even here and the greater part of them some ten or fifteen miles south of this place.

Very Respectfully Yours
P. D. Ginnsborn.